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SOVIET POSITION ON TRIESTE

Soviet press reaction

to Trieste decision:

Soviet press has printed without comment
 Washington and Rome Tass despatches
stating a (unofficial) comment
~~comment~~ that decision ignores the solu-
tion

tion prescribed by the peace treaty.

is significant note
 - They ~~also~~ allege that Italians are not
 giving up pretensions to all of Trieste
 territory, which goes further than
~~previous Soviet statements.~~

Soviet
 - Ambassador Bohlen believes that failure
print
 to ~~include~~ the Belgrade despatch giving
 Yugoslav reaction represents an effort
to
 to avoid appearing to support Yugoslav
 position which may coincide with the
 position USSR may take.

Communist reaction:

- Togliatti, who recently came out in
 favor of a plebiscite^s, denounces US and
dis-
 British regard for Italian interests.
A
 He warns that "tense situation will be

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used to tie Italy more closely to the
 Atlantic imperialist camp."

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- 2 -

- Satellite propaganda points out the "great consternation" in Italy as well as alleging that the Western powers complied with Italian demands in order to gain Italian acceptance of EDC.

- A Cominform broadcast from Prague notes a positive aspect of the decision in the promised termination of Anglo-American occupation which will test the sincerity of Italy's "so-called Allies".

Probable Soviet Moves

- Maintain its position in support of the Italian peace treaty

(1) Since 1947 the USSR has consistently paid lip service to this plan calling for a free territory of Trieste with a governor appointed by the Security Council.

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- 3 -

article maintained that the Italian

peace treaty outlines the correct

solution.

- This position enables the*
(3) *A shift in policy would undermine*
Soviet Union to maintain the peace
its basic position of upholding

peace treaties and wartime agreements.

— regardless of how
unworkable they may
be in such cases as

Trieste...

- (4) *A ^{reported Soviet} proposal, paralleling that of the*
Yugoslav Summit, would raise
suspensions in allied quarters regarding
Soviet-Yugoslav relations

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